

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. An immunogenic fusion polypeptide which stimulates an immune response against group A streptococci, comprising:

(a) at least two immunogenic polypeptides from a group A streptococci of at least 10 amino acids in length which are capable of stimulating an immune response against group A streptococci; and

(b) a peptide C terminal to the immunogenic polypeptide which protects the immunogenicity of the immunogenic portion, wherein the C-terminal peptide is not required to stimulate an immune response against group A streptococci.

2. The polypeptide according to claim 1 wherein one of said immunogenic polypeptides is obtained from a serotype 5 group A streptococci.

3. The polypeptide according to claim 1 wherein one of said immunogenic polypeptides is obtained from a serotype 6 group A streptococci.

4. The polypeptide according to claim 1 wherein one of said immunogenic polypeptides is obtained from a group A streptococci serotype selected from the group consisting of 1, 1.1, 2, 3, 4, 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 22, 24, 28, 30, 48, 49, 52 and 56.

5. A vaccinating agent for promoting an immune response against group A streptococci, comprising:

(a) at least two immunogenic polypeptides from a group A streptococci of at least 10 amino acids in length which are capable of stimulating a protective immune response against group A streptococci; and

(b) a peptide C terminal to the immunogenic polypeptide which protects the immunogenicity of the immunogenic portion, wherein the C-terminal peptide is not required to stimulate an immune response against group A streptococci.

6. The vaccinating agent according to claim 5 wherein one of said immunogenic polypeptides is obtained from a serotype 5 group A streptococci.

7. The vaccinating agent according to claim 5 wherein one of said immunogenic polypeptides is obtained from a serotype 6 group A streptococci.

8. The vaccinating agent according to claim 5 wherein one of said immunogenic polypeptides is obtained from a group A streptococci serotype selected from the group consisting of 1, 1.1, 2, 3, 4, 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 22, 24, 28, 30, 48, 49, 52 and 56.

9. The vaccinating agent according to claim 5, further comprising an adjuvant.

10. The vaccinating agent according to claim 9 wherein the adjuvant is alum or Freund's adjuvant.

11. A method for vaccinating a host against group A streptococci infections, comprising administering a vaccinating agent according to any one of claims 5 to 7.

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